



COUNTY OF MONTEREY

# CAO Weekly Report

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## SPECIALREPORT



Some of the fun items that will be on hand at eclipse events at the King City and Seaside libraries.

## County Notes

- > Find out about the upcoming eclipse and do some solar observing Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at the King City library. More details [here](#).

## Check Out the Eclipse - at the Library

The rare phenomenon of a total solar eclipse has folks everywhere very interested in astronomy. This event has prompted county libraries to get involved, even to launch a collaboration which will put more telescopes into the hands of local users.

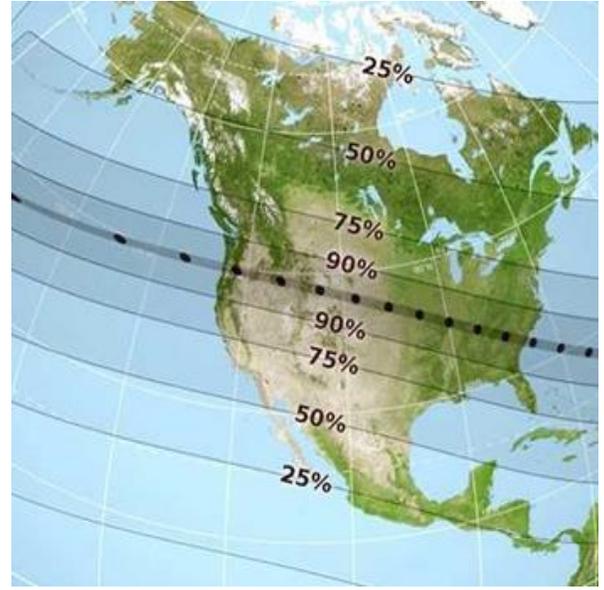
There will be two solar eclipse library events this month.

The first is this coming Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-2:30 p.m. in King City. Tom Piller of the MIRA (Monterey Institute of Research in Astronomy) Astronomy Club will talk about the eclipse and the Saros Cycle (yes, that is a period of approximately 6,585 days – but you will need to attend the program to find out more). There will be a solar observing session during the program and you can pick up eclipse observation glasses.

The second event is to see the eclipse itself.

Because Monterey County is in the path to see the eclipse at 75%, the Seaside Branch (550 Harcourt Avenue in Seaside) is tapping into excitement by hosting a viewing event which also will serve to kick off a new telescope lending program.

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, the day of eclipse, from 9 a.m. to Noon, residents can come view the eclipse at that branch. The Library is partnering with scientists from the Monterey Institute of Research in Astronomy (MIRA). There will be guided use of a telescope as well as special glasses available for viewing the eclipse that protect human eyes from harmful sun rays (while supplies last). Many thanks to Friends of the Seaside Library for donating these viewing glasses.



*The path of the eclipse shows in Monterey County, we will only see the eclipse at 75%.*

The viewing event is the perfect backdrop for MCFL to launch its new Telescope Lending Program, which evolved as library staff researched ways to support community interest in the eclipse.

“We heard about an opportunity to obtain some free viewing glasses and we started our planning for an event,” says Library Director Jayanti Addleman. “In our research we heard about the New Hampshire Astronomical Society’s (NHAS) library partnership program and MIRA stepped up to partner with us. The rest as they say is history – or astronomy, in this case.”

NHAS provided a telescope and MIRA modified it for easy public use. The telescopes that will be available for check out were purchased and donated to the Library by MIRA.

The lending program is available to MCFL library card holders, 18 years or older, who can check out a telescope for three weeks at a time. Telescopes will only be available at the Seaside Branch.

Happy Solar Eclipse!

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## Have You Taken The Print Pledge?

Efforts to reduce County paper waste are becoming more noticeable with the launch of the Think Before You Print campaign.

**THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT**

In FY 2015-16, the County of Monterey consumed an estimated **41.5 million sheets of paper** and spent an estimated **\$285,000 on printing paper**  
~ SEE BELOW FOR WAYS TO SAVE ~

**GO PAPERLESS**  
If you can forward, share, or use documents digitally, do so instead. When possible, organize and store your documents digitally rather than printing hard copies. Use your computer or tablet to review documents.

**PRINT DOUBLE SIDED**  
When you have to print, use the double sided (aka duplex) printing option, if available. Set double sided printing as the default print setting on your computer.

**REUSE AS NOTE PAPER**  
Make the most out of your discarded single-sided paper by using it as scratch/note paper. Start a scratch paper bin in your office and encourage others to contribute.

**TAKE OUR PLEDGE**  
Show your commitment to reducing your paper consumption by taking our pledge!  
[CLICK HERE TO TAKE PLEDGE](#)

**QUESTIONS?**  
Contact Dan Bertoldi x5457  
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This campaign gets employees involved in reducing the County's paper footprint. You can take a pledge to reduce printing use. [Click here to take the pledge.](#)

Why take the pledge? Sustainability Manager Dan Bertoldi says it's a way to support sustainability efforts and lets employees tell the County which paper reduction measures they would like to use.

Did you know that the Child Support Services Department uses software to track the number of sheets that are printed out from its network printers?

Karsten Rother, Department Information System Manager at CSS was the brains behind this project. He was 'thinking before printing' back in 2008 after the office had gone through a state 'tech refresh,' when it received new computer equipment from the state.

"I wrote a little script that would query our shared printers in a given daily time frame to collect the printed total page counts. With that, we were able to educate and train staff early on conserving paper," Rother says, which after nearly ten years is now second nature to employees.

An unexpected bonus: the department is able to monitor and determine annual paper needs and how much toner it was using, including whether the toner lived up to its promised yields.

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## County Employees Help Stuff the Bus

When Child Support Services 'adopted' the United Way's Stuff the Bus program, it put out the word to other departments about helping this worthy cause. This program collects backpacks and supplies for homeless students in Monterey County.

Donation stations resembling buses could be seen in many departments including CSS, the Health Department and the third floor at the County Government Center in Salinas. Many employees in departments without a collection spot sent donations directly.

County employees can be proud of their contributions. Enough money and new supplies were donated to the overall campaign to stuff 3,335 backpacks for students.

“Monterey County employees helped contribute to this very successful effort, to make starting school for these children so much easier,” says Jody Holtzworth, CSS Director. “We truly have some very generous and caring employees working for the county.



*A Stuff the Bug collection spot (left). What 3,335 backpack and supplies look like at the United Way staging area in Salinas (above).*

Have you ever seen 3,335 backpacks in one room? Mary Zurita, Executive Assistant to the Administrative Officer, got that chance. She volunteered to sort and fill those backpacks.

“It was a very rewarding experience for me personally as a mother, grandparent, part of the County team and community member,” says Zurita. “I helped with sorting new backpacks and stacking them by categories (kinder, grade, and middle/high school) for the next team to inventory them. Wow, I’ve never seen so many backpacks in my life. It is such a worthy cause to see a lot of students happy to attend school for the first time or return back to school with a new backpack and school supplies.”